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Photo 10
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A Spokane, Portland & Seattle boxcar dominates the upper half of this photograph, reminding us how closely the Camas Mill depended on the railroad. Below the tracks, a crew of workers is constructing what appears to be a large timber retaining structure or formwork, part of the infrastructure supporting the expanding mill.

The exact purpose of the structure remains uncertain. It may represent the early stages of a concrete pour for a loading platform, retaining wall, or foundation near the tracks. The view appears to be looking south, and it is possible that Lady Island can be seen in the distance, though both the location and orientation should be considered tentative.

At the lower left, what appears to be a tunnel or culvert disappears beneath the work area. Whether it carried stormwater, runoff, or served another purpose is unknown, but it adds another clue to how the site functioned beneath the surface.

The photograph captures more than another stage of construction. It shows the relationship between the railroad and the mill itself—materials arriving by rail, workers shaping the landscape below, and the transportation network that helped make the Camas Mill one of the region's major industrial operations.